

THE CHURCH NEWSLETTER



First Baptist Church, Mount Airy, North Carolina

Volume 6

April 20, 1967

Number 15

QUARTERLY BUSINESS CONFERENCE THIS WEDNESDAY NIGHT

April 26 - 6:00 P. M.

SCHEDULE:

- 6:00 Supper served by the church Kitchen Committee (Adult plate \$1.00 and children \$.50).
6:30 Business Conference (each committee chairman is expected to make a report of the last quarter's work and to hand this report to our church clerk for the minutes.)
7:30 PRAYER MEETING

Once again we remind you of the importance of your attendance at this meeting. You can insure the future of your church by participating in its planning for the future. Surely you will not let something else deprive you of being present on the 26th. If you cannot come as early at 6:00 to eat, we hope you will at least come for the business session. If you plan to eat and fellowship, please make a reservation Sunday morning.

Make Your Reservation Sunday Morning

ANNIE ARMSTRONG OFFERING FOR HOME MISSIONS IS NOW OVER-SUBSCRIBED

A goal of \$850.00 was set for our special Home Missions Offering this year, and once again we are happy to say that through the generosity of our people we have over-paid this goal.

Once again your desire for the cause of missions has been further demonstrated by your willingness to give. On behalf of the WMU, may I thank you for your faithfulness in stewardship. A pastor is always overjoyed when his people set a goal and then reach it for Christ's sake. You have done it again as I all along knew you would.

CHRISTIANITY

IS

LIVING

CHRIST

EVERYDAY!

EVERYWHERE!



"God's work must truly
be our own"

Memorial gifts have been given to the church building fund in memory of MRS. A. G. WEBB by Miss Lucy Gray, Durham, N. C. and by Mr. and Mrs.

Welcome *New Members*



Mr. Jack A. Loftis
121 Linville Road
By Letter

Mrs. Jack A. Loftis (Dot)
By Letter

Steve Loftis
By Letter

Susan Loftis
For Baptism

Mr. Bill Wall
115 West Poplar Street
For Baptism

Mr. Phil Sutphin
210 Country Club Road
For Baptism

Mr. Stephen Tickle
324 Robin Road
For Baptism

Mr. Dean Riggs
235 East Church Street
For Baptism

Mr. Claude F. Brinkley
1030 Willow Street
On Rededication

Mrs. Claude F. Brinkley (Shirley)
For Baptism

Memos

Sunday, April 23

9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
6:30 p.m. Youth Fellowship

Monday, April 24

7:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack Meeting

Wednesday, April 26

6:00 p.m. Primary Choir
6:00 p.m. Junior Choir
6:00 p.m. Quarterly Business Meeting
6:30 p.m. Youth Choir
7:30 p.m. Prayer Service
8:15 p.m. Senior Choir

Thursday, April 27

Pastor's Pen

First Baptist is not noted as being a "shouting church". However, I will confess to you that twice in these past weeks I have felt like pronouncing the Amen on the benediction and then letting out one good shout of joy. I have the feeling that at least a few others would have joined me in this attitude.

Some six weeks ago you voted enthusiastically and unanimously to proceed with the construction of a new sanctuary and office wing. Never have I seen more harmony and unity expressed in a business meeting. A good shout would have been in order.

Last Sunday we witnessed the moving of the Holy Spirit in our Worship Service as ten people responded to the hymn of invitation. Six of these came on first time profession of faith and for baptism. It is interesting to note that one of these six was a Junior girl, four were tenth grade young men, and one was an adult lady. Once again, a shout would have been in order.

These old dry bones will live again for us just as they did for Ezekiel. The real joy is not only that ten very meaningful decisions were made; the real joy is that many others are talking about the decision they need to make and have now decided to do so.

You don't need a special revival preacher to have a true "awakening" in your church. All you need is the courage to witness for your Lord. Why go next door before you are certain your own family has accepted Christ, been baptized, and committed to an active Christian life inside and outside the church buildings?

Speak to your children about Christ. Encourage that spouse to have the courage to make your home a Christian and one church home. The pastor will be glad to visit in your home to help you approach this significant decision. He will also be glad to work with your child and you as he approaches acceptance of Christ. Call on your pastor today!

See you Sunday! Pray for another

Youth Fellowship

Sunday Night, 6:30 P. M.

Our speaker this Sunday evening will be Sargent James R. McNeil, Administrative Supply Technician of the local National Guard Unit. The discussion will center around the chain of command, military obligations, and present day attitudes concerning military service. This will be followed by a question and answer period. Plan now to attend!



SERVICEMAN OF THE WEEK

This week we remember in our prayers and in our thoughts:

A3C Robert C. (Sparky) Baughn
AF 14972396
Defense Information School
BSC-9
Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana
46216

Baptism Set For This

Sunday Morning

We will baptize this Sunday morning at the beginning of the Worship Hour. Come and Worship With Us.

Christian Sympathy

We express our sincere Christian Sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Kermit Boyd, Mrs. Emily Hiatt, Mrs. Paul Gravely, Mrs. Ronald McMillian, Mrs. Wade Ayers, Jimmy Boyd, and Mrs. Harvey Boyd in the passing of their loved one, Buzzy Boyd.

God created in the human soul a craving for worship and set aside one day a week to satisfy that desire.

No act of Christianity pleases Christ as does the sharing of Him with others.

THE DEMAND OF THE GOSPEL ON US!

Not too many years have gone by since people were flocking into our churches. Baptisms were soaring, and the only limitation on Sunday School growth was the size of our building. "Double your space in order to double your attendance," we were told.

What happened? Where are all those people we baptized? Why do those who can often be found often seem lacking in initiative, enthusiasm and influence?

Why is society seemingly unaffected by the presence in it of Christian churches and communities?

Perhaps we too have yielded to the pressures of our environment. We have been guilty of measuring our strength according to the standards of the world. Buildings, church budgets, and numbers have been our glory. So enthralled by our achievements were we that we were unconscious of our loss of spiritual strength.

In order to achieve the standards we set, we have preached a cheap gospel. "All you need to do," we have said, "is to walk down the aisle and give your heart to Jesus. The gospel is free, and you cannot earn it. All you can do is accept it."

This, of course, is the great truth of the gospel--Salvation IS by the grace of God and is possible in no other way.

There is another truth, however, that we must set along side this one in order not to present a distorted gospel. A person becomes a follower of Jesus Christ by God's grace, but it is always COSTLY to follow him.

We need to include Luke 14:26-27 in our presentation of the claims of Christ. The person who would follow Jesus Christ must realize that no claim is higher than His, not even the claim of father and mother. Moreover, he who casts his lot with Jesus must be prepared to follow him to the cross.

Cheap discipleship is a contradiction of the New Testament. When we preach cheap discipleship we are being unfaithful to the gospel and unfair to those who hear us, for it is just as difficult to be a genuine follower of Jesus Christ as it ever was. Members added to the roll by a process of "watering down" the